AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

In the paragraph beginning on page 21, line 2, the paragraph beginning on page 23, line 9, and the paragraph beginning on page 24, line 8, please amend as reflected in the following marked-up version of the paragraph:

Paragraph beginning on page 21, line 2

Each of the primary tines 14 may have a length l_1, although alternatively, as shown in [Fig. 6]Fig. 1A, each of the primary tines 14 may have a different length than one another. The primary tines 14 may be disposed in one or more opposing pairs, e.g., on opposing first curved regions 32, and may be oriented towards and/or across the central axis 24 in the planar configuration. In the planar configuration, the lengths l_1 may be sufficiently long such that the primary tines 14 at least partially overlap one another, i.e., extend across the central axis 24 towards an opposing tine 14. Therefore, the tips of the primary tines 14 may extend past the central axis 24 and/or the primary tines 14 in each pair may lie substantially parallel to each other when the clip 10 is in the planar configuration.

Paragraph beginning on page 23, line 9

Figures 3A-3C illustrate various designs of clips configured according to the present invention in which the primary tines, which are offset from the axis of symmetry of the loop from which they extend, are connected directly to a first curved region or are connected to the curved region by extending one side of the curved region to form one side of the primary tine and connecting the other side of the primary tine with a curved connecting element 141 and 241, as shown in Figs. 3B and 3C.

Paragraph beginning on page 24, line 8

The clip of Figure [3B]3C is similar in some respects to the clip of 3B, but is generally elliptical in shape rather than generally circular in shape. Thus, clip 237 comprises body 231 which has loops 235, primary tines 232, secondary tines 233 which tines have points 234. In this embodiment, the primary tines 232 extend beyond the innermost reach of the first curved regions which are opposite the first curved regions from which the primary tines extend. The primary tines are offset from the axis of symmetry 238 of the loop from which they extend. The primary

tines of the clip of Figure 3C are connected to the loops from which they extend in the same manner as those of Figure 3B.